P. Ch.r L'Enfant

THE
BEGINNINGS OF WASHINGTON

AS DESCRIBED IN

BOOKS MAPS AND VIEWS

BY

P. LEE PHILLIPS

CHIEF, DIVISION OF MAPS

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WASHINGTON

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MANY suggestions and published statements have been made as to why Washington should have selected the present location for the seat of the National Government. We at the present day may see many reasons why it should have been done, and as this great man seemed to have looked far into the future where the interest of his country was at stake, let him be credited with a divine inspiration, which is frequently found among the leaders of men.

The reason, however, which may well appeal to our romantic point of view, and which we know was instilled into Washington's early life, is that in the early days of Virginia history the great Indian tribe of Algonquins met at stated times in the land located between the Potomac River and its Eastern Branch, just as Congress does now, to make laws and discuss national affairs.

That the location was made the subject of many adverse criticisms is seen by the opinion expressed in books, magazines and newspapers of the day. Washington's influence and autocratic power, which he wielded in a hypnotic manner, downed all criticism to the contrary. The size, distance, name, numbers and letters of the streets all came in for a share. The French Minister, in this country at that time (1790-1793) Chevalier Jean Baptiste Ternant, facetiously made a statement as to the plan and referred to L'Enfant as a child in name and in education also, as he appeared to know little else than to name the streets A, B, C, and 1, 2, 3.

As regards the location, a letter from Andrew Ellicott to his wife, dated June 26, 1791, quoted in Mathew's "Andrew Ellicott," shows very plainly and characteristically these contemporaneous views, amusingly expressed by one who knew:

First View of Washington. 1801.

"My dear Sally

"Since my last was forwarded by our friend Adam Hoops nothing material has transpired except the return of the President— . . . The Country thro' which we are now cutting one of the ten-mile lines is very poor; I think for near seven miles on it there is not one house that has any floor except the earth; and what is more strange, it is in the neighbourhood of Alexandria, and George-Town,—we find but little Fruit, except Huckel berries, and live in our Camp, as retired as we used to do on Lake Erie—Labouring Hands in this Country can scarcely be had at any rate; my estimate was twenty; but I have to wade slowly thro' with six,—this scarcity of hands will lengthen out the time much beyond what I intended.—As the President is so much attached to this country, I would not be willing that he should know my real sentiments about it.—But with you, (My Dear) whose love, and affection, I have constantly experienced almost from my infancy, I am not afraid to make my sentiments known.—

"This country intended for the Permanent Residence of Congress bears no more proportion to the Country about Philadelphia, and German-Town, for either wealth or fertility, than a Crane does to a stall-fed Ox— . . .

I am My Dear Sally your
Affectionate Husband."

It is pleasant after this and many other adverse criticisms to read the following copied from the "Times and Alexandria Advertiser," September 20, 1798:

"The President's house and public offices in the Federal City, we understand are rapidly progressing and that the capitol may also be completed before the next meeting of Congress, the roof being on, and the floors and plastering only wanting. General Washington has commenced two houses near the capitol, not to benefit or accomodate himself, but to aid in preparations for the reception of Congress in 1800, or before, if necessary.

"It is pleasing to find that experience has justified the selection of a central spot, for the metropolis of this extensive empire, remarkable for the salubrity of its air, the purity of its water, and the cheapness of provisions and fuel; and that whilst the yellow fever stalks with

desolating strides in some the principal towns of the Union, the Federal City, destined at some future day to rival the glory of ancient Rome bids fair to be secure from the ravager of cities and to enjoy from its peculiar situation and construction an envious scene of health.

"London, since the New River supplied it with fresh water, and the introduction of coal, has ever been exempt from the plague; and the Federal City, at a small expense, can have pure water conveyed to the top of every house, and coal in immense quantities can be obtained at half the price of wood fuel.

[Fed. Gaz]"

And also the following, carelessly written and correctly transcribed, from the "Boston Gazette" of February 5, 1798:

"MARYLAND,

Georgetown, and the City of Washington.

"Georgetown, is very pleasantly situated, and stands on an eminence, the view is very pleasing coming on from Alexandria, which it is distant from eight miles—the city of Washington appears very pretty from Georgetown, and is situated eastward of it.—The trade and commerce small, contains about 2000 inhabitants, very little depth of water for vessels of burthen to come up, which impedes the commerce of this place—there are however great quantities of Flour brought down from the country, and there are a number of canals cut through the upper end of Georgetown, and a Bridge about three and a half miles up in order to receive the produce from the interior parts of the country. The intended Bridge, will cut short five miles, and be the means of securing to Georgetown, a vast trade and commerce—the situation of the Canal, is beautiful and render'd very pleasant by means of the trees on the bank or margin.—The following is the inscription on the stone over the Federal Bridge, leading to the City of Washington 'On the memorable 4th July 1792, this first base stone of the Federal Bridge, was laid by Thomas Johnson, David Stuart and David Carrol, commissioners of the Federal buildings, Leonard Harbaugh, Architect.' The city of Washington, is very beautifully situated, and on the eastern branch exhibits a fine view of Alexandria, and on the western branch a fine view of Georgetown,—the college at Georgetown, on an eminence, looks very pleasing, and

the prospect is delightful when the Federal City is settled, Georgetown probably may in some degree vie with Alexandria in trade, and the intended Bridge up the river, by means of which, the communication is facilitated will bring the produce back of the country, seventy miles to Georgetown, in preference to Alexandria in some instances, intersected by the Potowmack, which divides the places. Rural retreats on eminences, afford a most pleasing view, and combining elegance of situation with beautiful structure, tend to enhance the pleasures of this variegated scene—the eminences in the city of Washington, render it peculiarly pleasing, and the trees diffusing their variegated foliage by the banks of the Potowmack, increase the rural scene; add to this, the tuneful echoes of the grove, captivate the attention and add to the delightful scene—the feather'd choristers with their beautiful warblings enrapture the ear, and the opposite banks of Alexandria, with beautiful foliage present to view.—By the sides where the Bridge is to built, on the upper end of Georgetown, it looks quite romantic and sublime.

"The President's House in Washington, built of white free stone, is in length 175 feet 7 inches, and breadth 83 feet 5 inches—rooms 26½ feet long—19 feet high—walls outside, 2 feet 9 inches, and inside 2 feet. The beautiful imagery appears pleasing to the fancy, and captivating to the eye, there were two stories of this delightful edifice, compleated in May 1796, and since the guarantee of the new loan, they go on rapid in building, there were about 300 houses taken collectively built in this city at that time. Thomas Law, Esq. nephew of our late President—William Cranch, Esq. and Lewis Deblois, Esq. reside here—there are a number of wharves building at the city of Washington, which combin'd with its elegant situation for navigation, will render its commerce in process of time flourishing and great—when it becomes the permanent seat of the Federal Government, it will bring considerable trade to this city, and soon be a settled, flourishing and convenient place for commerce. The salubrity of climate, and rural situation, will render it a pleasing and agreeable resort for strangers.—The capitol, is on a very extensive plan, and will be beautiful when finish'd, the Court with a colonade supporting a dome of sixteen pillars, there is the senate and Representative's chamber, and the audience chamber, where the President meets both houses.—The capitol is four hundred feet long, and one hundred and thirty feet wide.—There are to be sixteen avenues or

View of Washington. 1792.

streets, and from the capitol you have a beautiful view of the streets, like the kadii of a circle. The Hotel is large and commodious, situated as you go on to Greenleaf's Point. In short, the city of Washington, when finish'd will be an elegant and delightful place.

"The capitol in the city of Washington when completed, will be beautiful and very ornamental. There is to be a Representative's Chamber, finish'd in elegant taste, and the Senate Chamber to be on an ascending principle of beauty, and an Audience Chamber where the President meets both Houses,—previous to the entrance of this delightful dome, it is to be elegantly decorated with a Court, with a Colonade, supporting a dome, sixteen pillars in an ornamental stile, four hundred feet long, and one hundred and thirty three wide—is to be the length and width of the capitol, as respects the salubrity of Washington, it is in general accounted healthy and is very pleasantly situated.—The eastern branch is the most pleasant and more settled than the other parts—its being encompass'd with salt water, adds greatly to its health.—The pleasures of a fine prospect of Alexandria, adds greatly to the eligible situation from the eastern branch. The trade and commerce of Washington, will greatly appreciate under the auspices of increasing settlements and its being the permanent seat of the Federal Government. There are fine commodious Wharves building, and every thing is expected from its being the residence of our American Congress. In the vicinity of this city, is the delightful retreat of the illustrious General, hero and statesman, whose name it bears, our much-lov'd Washington—his seat is supported by eight handsome columns, and looks delightful in sailing up the Potowmack—he has a fine park for Deer, and every thing comporting with the taste and genius of a Washington, in agriculture and rural life.—His favourite diversion is hunting, and the pleasure of polite literature on the shady banks of Mount Vernon in delightful domes—fine cascades of water, artificial bridges and a delightful look-out.—Whilst in retrospection, a Washington estimates human life on a principle of propriety and an idea of fixity—he seeks that retired delight which his silver'd age requires—accompanied by the plaudits of a grateful country.—Alexandria being so nearly situated to Washington, adds greatly to the advantage, of its trade and commercial interests—under the guarantee of the new loan, and the approaching period for the residence of Congress—great advantages in population and manufactures are pleasingly anticipated.—Alexandria is eight miles distant, and both places are

possess'd of a fine export, Flour.—The district of Washington, is ten miles square—designated by free stone—on the margin of Alexandria's banks inscribed—'Beginning of the territory of columbia'—In short under the agreeable and pleasing delights of Washington, and its being the future residence of Congress—we may anticipate with pleasure its growing population and advantages."

Washington's own opinion of the future city is expressed in a letter to Arthur Young, dated Philadelphia, December 12, 1793, in which he says:

"The Federal City, in the year 1800, will become the seat of the general government of the United States. It is increasing fast in buildings, and rising in consequence; and will, I have no doubt, from the advantages given to it by Nature, and its proximity to a rich interior country, and the western territory become the emporium of the United States."

In September, 1791, at a meeting of the Commissioners, a letter was written to L'Enfant, in which they stated: "We have agreed that the federal district shall be called the 'Territory of Columbia' and the federal city 'The city of Washington.'" The name of America's great discoverer, Christopher Columbus, and that of the greatest of Americans, are thus happily combined. Previous to this it was spoken of in various ways, as "Columbia," "Federal City," and "Capital City."

Four great intellects stand out preeminently in the founding of the city: Washington, L'Enfant, Jefferson and Ellicott. To the two former, most credit is due, while the latter were instrumental in helping to further the great result.

The first description of the city of Washington was published in the "Maryland Journal," for September 30, 1791, signed "A Spectator." It was reprinted in the "New York Magazine, or Literary Repository," for November, 1791, p. 656, and the small map engraved by Tiebout to accompany it, was published in the number for June, 1792. This description was republished in various

magazines, papers and other literary compositions, with some alterations, for a number of years after. It is not generally known that the description of Washington in Elhahan Winchester's "Oration on the discovery of America," published in London, 1792, is copied from the "Universal Magazine," for March, 1792, which in itself is based upon the one in the "New York Magazine" of November, 1791, mentioned above.

In the "Monthly Review" of London, for July, 1793, p. 350, is a facetious review of the oration of Winchester, from which is taken this extract:

"Mr. W., on the contrary, treats his reader with much more than his title-page gives his readers to expect. Besides a curious description and plan of the intended great, magnificent and commodious city of Washington, the building of which is actually going on, the pamphlet, . . . page 48 contains an explanation of the plan and speaks of the stone bridge connecting Washington and Georgetown as 'superior to anything of the kind in America.' "

The earliest separate publication is a small pamphlet of twenty-nine pages, printed anonymously, in 1793, by L. Loudon & Son, New York, entitled: "Observations on the river Potomack, the country adjacent and the city of Washington." It has been erroneously attributed to Andrew Ellicott, but is now absolutely known to be by Tobias Lear, the secretary of Washington, as the State Department has two manuscript copies which were evidently loaned by Lear to Washington, who returns them with the following note:

"I have, however, run over your observations on the Potomac navigation, etc., etc., and in a hasty manner, as I went along at the first reading, made the notes and remarks which are returned with one of the copies.

German Town, 6 November, 1793."

Another edition of this work was published in New York, by L. Loudon & Brower, in 1794. A contemporaneous reprint was

First map of Washington. 1792.

made in the "New York Magazine," for 1794, and a modern reprint is in the "Columbia Historical Society, Records," 1905, v. 8.

As no mention is made bibliographically as to whether this work was ever published with a map of the city, it is a question of doubt, if a map was made to accompany it. The two editions in the Library of Congress do not contain a map, nor do the reprints above mentioned, and there is not any reference to a map in the text. Notwithstanding, in the copies belonging to the New York Public Library and to the Boston Athenaeum, a map is found, a copy of which is in separate form in the Library of Congress. This map without date or place of publication, measures 9½ x 14½ inches, and is entitled: "Plan of the city of Washington," within the palm leaf cartouche, and under it "Thackara & Vallance, sc." It is without soundings and observations, and although the engravers are the well-known ones that engraved the Philadelphia plan known as the first official map, the map has a strange resemblance, especially in the triangular shape of Georgetown, to the first engraved map by S. Hill, of Boston. Another reason for not supposing this map is to accompany Lear's work, is the fact that the Lear description was published in New York, and the map was engraved in Philadelphia. The supposition is that it was published after the Boston map, and before the Philadelphia one, in order to facilitate in the selling of lots which were on the market at that time. Or it may be the reduced drawing from the Boston map, suggested to be engraved for use at the first sale of lots, held October 17, 1791, so that those who attended might know the position of the property to be sold.

The Library of Congress has perhaps the second separate publication, a broadside, 16 x 12½ inches, entitled: "A description of the situation and plan of the city of Washington, now building, for the Metropolis of America and established as the permanent residence of Congress after the year 1800." This absolutely unique and scarce description, which has only recently come to light, is signed "George Walker, London, York Hotel, Bridge Street, Blackfriars, March 12,

1793." Evidently it was issued as a circular to aid the selling of lots, although somewhat like a compilation from other publications, it will merit being published in full.

"The City of Washington, in the district of Columbia, now building for the permanent seat of the Government of the United States, stands at the junction of the rivers Potomac and Eastern Branch, extending about four miles up each, including a tract of territory, exceeding in point of convenience, salubrity, and beauty, by none in America, if any in the world: For, although the land is apparently level, yet, by gentle and gradual swelling, a variety of elegant prospects are produced, while there is a sufficient descent to convey off the water occasioned by rain.

"Within the limits of the city are twenty-five never-failing springs of excellent water; and, by digging wells, water of the best quality is readily had; besides, the never-failing streams that now run through that territory, are also to be collected for the use of the city.

"The Eastern Branch is one of the safest and most commodious harbours in America, being sufficiently deep for the largest ships, for about four miles above its mouth; while the channel lies close along the edge of the city, and is abundantly capacious.

"The city, being situated upon the great post road, exactly equidistant from the northern and southern extremities of the Union, and nearly so from the Atlantic Ocean to the Ohio river, upon the best navigation, and in the midst of the richest commercial territory in America, commanding the most extensive internal resources, is by far the most eligible situation for the residence of Congress; and as it is now pressing forward, by the public spirited enterprise of the people of the United States, and by foreigners, it will grow up with a degree of rapidity, hitherto unparalleled in the annals of cities, and will soon become the admiration and delight of the world.

"The inland navigation of the Potomac is so far advanced, that craft loaded with produce now come down that river and its several branches, from upwards of one hundred and eighty miles to the great falls, which are within fourteen miles of the New City. The canals at the great and little falls are nearly completed, and the locks in such forwardness, that, in the course of the ensuing summer, the navigation will be entirely opened between tide water and the head branches

TERMS AND CONDITIONS declared by the PRESIDENT of the UNITED STATES, this ſeventeenth day of October, ſeventeen hundred and ninety-one, for regulating the Materials and Manner of the Buildings and Improvements on the LOTS in the CITY of WASHINGTON.

1st. THAT the outer and party walls of all houſes within the ſaid City ſhall be built of brick or ſtone.

2d. That all buildings on the ſtreets ſhall be parallel thereto, and may be advanced to the line of the ſtreet, or withdrawn therefrom, at the pleaſure of the improver. But where any building is about to be erected, neither the foundation or party-wall ſhall be begun without firſt applying to the perſon or perſons appointed by the Commiſſioners to ſuperintend the buildings within the city, who will aſcertain the lines of the walls to correſpond with theſe regulations.

3d. The wall of no houſe to be higher than forty feet to the roof in any part of the city; nor ſhall any be lower than thirty-five feet on any of the avenues.

4th. That the perſon or perſons appointed by the Commiſſioners to ſuperintend the buildings may enter on the land of any perſon to ſet out the foundation and regulate the walls to be built between party and party, as to the breadth and thickneſs thereof: Which foundation ſhall be laid equally upon the lands of the perſons between whom ſuch party-walls are to be built, and ſhall be of the breadth and thickneſs determined by ſuch perſon proper; and the firſt builder ſhall be reimburſed one moiety of the [illegible] party-wall, or ſo much thereof as the next ſhall have occaſion to make uſe of. [illegible] next builder ſhall any ways uſe or break [illegible] wall—The charge or value thereof to be aſſeſſed by the perſon or perſons ſo appointed by the Commiſſioners.

5th. Such temporary conveniencies will be proper for lodging workmen and bearing materials for building, as are to be underſtood that ſuch may be erected with the approbation of the Commiſſioners: But they may be removed or diſcontinued by the ſpecial order of the Commiſſioners.

6th. The way into the ſquares being deſigned in a peculiar manner for the common uſe and convenience of the occupiers of the reſpective ſquares—The property in the ſame is reſerved to the public, ſo that there may be an immediate interference on any diſturbance of the uſe thereof by any individual, to the nuiſance or obſtruction of others. The proprietors of the Lots adjoining the entrance into the ſquares, on arching over the entrance, and fixing gates in the manner the Commiſſioners ſhall approve, ſhall be intitled to divide the ſpace over the arching and build it up with the range of that line of the ſquare.

7th. No vaults ſhall be permitted under the ſtreets, nor any encroachments on the foot way above by ſteps, ſtoops, porches, cellar doors, windows, ditches or leaning walls; nor ſhall there be any projection over the ſtreet, other than the eves of the houſe, without the conſent of the Commiſſioners.

8th. Theſe regulations are the terms and conditions under and upon which conveyances are to be made, according to the deeds in truſt of the lands within the city.

George Waſhington.

TERMS of SALE of LOTS in the CITY of WASHINGTON, the Eighth Day of *October*, 1792.

ALL Lands purchaſed at this Sale, are to be ſubject to the Terms and Conditions declared by the Preſident, purſuant to the Deeds in Truſt.

The purchaſer is immediately to pay one fourth part of the purchaſe money; the reſidue is to be paid in three equal annual payments, with yearly intereſt of ſix per cent. on the whole principal unpaid: If any payment is not made at the day, the payments made are to be forfeited, or the whole principal and intereſt unpaid may be recovered on one ſuit and execution, in the option of the Commiſſioners.

The purchaſer is to be entitled to a conveyance, on the whole purchaſe money and intereſt being paid, and not before. No bid under Three Dollars to be received.

Broadside signed by George Washington. 1791

of the Potomac, which will produce a communication by water between the city of Washington, and the interior parts of Virginia and Maryland, by means of the Potomac, the Shannandoah, the South Branch, Opecan, Cape Capon, Patterson's Creek, Conoochegue, and Monocasy, for upwards of two hundred miles, through one of the most healthy, pleasant, and fertile regions in America, producing in vast abundance, tobacco of superior quality, hemp, Indian corn, wheat and other small grain, with fruit and vegetables peculiar to America, in vast abundance, and equal in quality to any in the United States.

"The lands upon the Potomac above the City of Washington, all around it, and for sixty-miles below, are high and dry, abounding with innumerable springs of excellent water, and are well covered with large timber of various kinds. A few miles below the City, upon the banks of the Potomac, are inexhaustible mountains of excellent freestone of the white and red Portland kinds, of which the public edifices in the city are now building. Above the City, also upon the banks of the river, are immense quantities of excellent coal, limestone, and marble, with blue slate of the best quality.

"The founding of this City, in such an eligible situation, upon such a liberal and elegant plan, will by future generations be considered as a high proof of the judgement and wisdom of the present President of the United States, while its name will keep fresh in mind, to the end of time, the many virtues and amiable qualities of that great man.

"The plan of this City, agreeably to the directions of the President of the United States, was designed and drawn by the celebrated Major L'Enfant, and is an inconceivable improvement upon all other cities, combining not only convenience, regularity, elegance of prospect, and a free circulation of air, but everything grand and beautiful that can possibly be introduced into a city.

"Two hasty impressions of this plan were ushered to the public last spring, one done at Philadelphia upon a small scale, and another done at Boston upon a larger;—these did not exhibit the soundings of the harbours, and were defective with regard to the limits of the City on the Eastern Branch.

"The last and best impression of the plan is that lately published at Philadelphia upon the large scale, although it contains several mistakes in the soundings of the Eastern Branch; for, where there is thirty-five feet of water, it only shews twelve and eighteen. This river has, however, been sounded by authority, and is found to con-

tain thirty and thirty-five feet to near the upper end of the city, where it is eighteen and twenty feet deep.

"The City is divided into squares or grand divisions, by the streets running due North and South, and East and West, which form the ground-work of the plan. However, from the Capitol, the President's House, and some of the important areas in the City, run transverse avenues or diagonal streets, from one material object to another, which not only produce a variety of charming prospects, but remove that insipid sameness that renders some other great cities unpleasing. These great leading streets are all one hundred and sixty feet wide, including a pavement of ten feet, and a gravel walk of thirty feet planted with trees on each side, which will leave eighty feet of paved street for carriages. The rest of the streets are in general one hundred and ten feet wide, with a few only ninety feet, except North, South and East Capitol streets, which are one hundred and sixty feet. The diagonal streets, are named after the respective states composing the Union, while those running North and South are, from the Capitol Eastward, named East First Street, East Second Street, &c., and those West of it are in the same manner called West First Street, West Second Street, &c., those running East and West are from the Capitol Northward named, North A Street, North B Street, &c., and those South of it are called South A Street, South B Street, &c.

"The squares or divisions of the City have their numbers inserted in the plan, and amount to eleven hundred and fifty.—The rectangular squares generally contain from three to six acres, and are divided into lots of from forty to eighty feet front, and their depth, from about one hundred and ten to three hundred feet, according to the size of the square.

"The irregular divisions produced by the diagonal streets are some of them small, but are generally in valuable situations.—Their acute points are to be cut off at forty feet, so that no house in the city will have an acute corner.—The lots in these irregular squares will all turn at a right angle with the respective streets, although the backs of the houses upon them will not stand parallel to one another, which is a matter of no consequence.

"By the rules declared and published by the President of the United States, for regulating the buildings within the City, all houses must be of stone or brick—their walls must be parallel to the streets and either placed immediately upon them, or withdrawn therefrom at

Washington. 1848.

pleasure. The walls of all houses upon streets one hundred and sixty feet wide must be at least thirty feet high; but there is no obligation imposed to build or improve in any limited time.

"The area for the Capitol (or house of the Legislative Bodies) is situated upon the most beautiful eminence in the City, about a mile from the Eastern Branch, and not much more from the Potomac, commanding a full and complete view of every part of the City, as well as a considerable extent of the ground around.—The President's House will stand upon a rising ground, not far from the banks of the Potomac, possessing a delightful water prospect, together with a commanding view of the Capitol, and some other material parts of the City.

"Due south from the President's house, and due west from the Capitol, run two great pleasure parks or malls, which intersect and terminate upon the banks of the Potomac, and are to be ornamented at the sides by a variety of elegant buildings, and houses for foreign Ministers, &c.

"Interspersed through the City, where the most material streets cross one another, are a variety of open Areas, formed in various regular figures, which in great cities are extremely useful and ornamental.

"Fifteen of the best of these Areas are to be appropriated to the different States composing the Union; not only to bear their respective name, but as proper places for them to erect statues, obelisks, or columns, to the memory of their favourite eminent men.—Upon the small eminence where a line due west from the Capitol, and due south from the President's house would intersect, is to be erected an equestrian statue of General Washington, now President of the United States.—The building where Massachusetts and Georgia streets meet, is intended for a *Marine Hospital,* with its gardens.

"The Area at the south end of East Eight Street is for the General Exchange and its public walks, &c.—The broad black line, which runs along part of North B Street, and, separating, joins the Eastern Branch at two places, is a Canal which is to be eighty feet wide, and eight feet deep.—The Area, where South G Street crosses the canal, is intended to contain a City Hall, and a basin of water; there being now a very large spring in the middle of it.

"The Area, at the junction of the rivers, is for a Fort, Magazine, and Arsenals.

"At the east end of East Capitol Street is to be a Bridge, and the

present Ferry is at the lower end of Kentucky street, where the great road now crosses the Eastern Branch.—The Tyber which is the principal stream that passes through the City, is to be collected in an grand Reservoir besides the Capitol, from whence it will be carried in pipes to different parts of the City; while its surplus will fall down in beautiful cascades, through the public gardens west of the Capitol, into the canal.—In the various parts of the City places are alloted for Market Houses, Churches, Colleges, Theatres, &c.

"The President of the United States, in locating the seat of the City, prevailed upon the proprietors of the soil to cede a certain portion of the lots in every situation, to be sold by his direction, and the proceeds to be solely applied to the public buildings, and other works of public utility within the City. This grant will produce about fifteen thousand lots, and will be sufficient, not only to erect the public buildings, but to dig the canal, conduct water through the City, and pave and light the streets, which will save a heavy tax that arises in other cities, and consequently render the lots considerably more valuable.

"The grants of money made by *Virginia* and *Maryland,* being hitherto sufficient, few of the public lots have been sold; but a sale is advertised to commence on the 17th day of September next, when it is expected the demand will be considerable, as the monied men in America have now turned their attention to that great national object.

"When the writer of this left Washington, on the end of January last, most of the streets were run, and the squares divided into lots.—The canal was partly dug, and the greatest part of the materials provided for the public buildings, which are to be entirely of freestone polished, and are now carrying on with all possible expedition.—Last summer several private houses were erected and a great many proprietors of lots were preparing to build this ensuing summer.

"In consequence of the establishment of National Faith, Order, and good Government, by the New Constitution, immense fortunes have been amassed in America within these three years past, by the National Debt and Bank Stock appreciating to their full value, as well as by the rapid rise in the value of back lands.—The Public lots in the City of Washington open the next field for speculation in America, and there is every probability of their being run up to an enormous price, as soon as the public buildings are considerably

Capitol, previous to its destruction by the British about 1799.

advanced; for although lands in America, from their quantity, are less valuable than those in Britain, yet lots in cities generally sell as high.

"Having every opportunity to be thoroughly acquainted with the subject, the preceding concise account of the progress of that grand and novel undertaking is respectfully offered to the public, by

Their obedient Servant,

GEORGE WALKER.

London, *York Hotel, Bridge Street, Black-friars, March* 12, 1793."

In a letter from George Washington, written in November 30, 1792, and published in the "Records of the Columbia Historical Society," vol. 17, he says. "Mr. George Walker, who is in this city informs me that he shall sail for Scotland about the first of January." This is evidently the author of the broadside given above, and the same who was closely identified with Washington, and an owner of property when the city was in embryo.

In describing some of the first publications relating to the beginnings of Washington, reference may be made to a pamphlet in the New York Public Library, which seems to have escaped the attention of all the writers on local history, entitled. "Essai sur la ville de Washington. Par un citoyen des Etats Unis. 8°. New York, de l'imprimerie de J. Delafond, Broad Street, No. 97, 1795."

While speaking of the maps of Washington, it may be absolutely stated that the one made by L'Enfant, in 1791, is the prototype or mother map of all the maps of the city up to the present time. The stranger within the gate may explore the city in perfect safety with it to guide his way. It is the only capital city known which began its existence already planned out, and may have been called originally a "paper city." In comparing its start with that of Petrograd, which has often been done, it seems to be forgotten that while the one was emblematic of peace and unity, the other was quite the opposite, according to the statement of some writer, who said:

"The Emperor took most severe and almost barbarous measures for increasing his newly founded city, which was built on marshy grounds, the buildings resting on piles. Thousands of people from all parts of Russia were removed thither and died in erecting the fortresses and building the houses."

That Congress was much in need of a permanent abode, away from national and local strife and jealousy, is well shown by an article published in the "New York Advertiser" of January 27, 1791:

"Where will congress find a resting place?—they have led a kind of vagrant life ever since 1774, when they first met to oppose Great-Britain. Every place they have taken to reside in has been made too hot to hold them: either the enemy would not let them stay, or people made a clamour because they were too far north or too far south, and oblige them to remove.

"If three removes are as bad as one fire, then Congress may be said to have been burned out several times. It seems, they are not fixed in the right place yet: Pennsylvania, the arbitress of the Union, will not let them do the business of the Union without meddling and dictating to them—they cannot touch a piece of work, but everybody either offers to lend a hand, or tells them to let that alone, and do something else. Some who call themselves the public creditors within that state, have taught them how to fund the debt, and in order to imprint the lesson of wisdom on their memories, they tell them with a great deal of circumlocution, and with all possible respect and deference, that 'the pursuit of some *collateral purpose* had deafened their ears to justice, and hardened their hearts to gratitude, and that they have canvassed their claims without favour, and curtailed them without necessity,' and, as of course, that the gallows is too good for them.

"The tradesmen of the city have shown Congress how to make a militia law, and the state assembly sitting under their very noses, have snap'd hold of them, at the same time telling them, that if they meddle with an excise, which the Constitution has empowered them to lay, they will subvert the liberties of the people. We pity the poor congress-men, thus kicked and cuffed about from post to pillar—where can they find a home? Let them advertise for a quiet place to sit in; where if they are honest men, they may

Capitol. 1848.

do the business, of the whole Union, which we sent them to do—and if they are not honest, let us turn them out, and send better men in their stead."

The first map of Washington was made by Charles Pierre L'Enfant, in 1791, and the original manuscript is found in the custody of the "Office of Commissioners of public buildings, D. C." The only perfect reproduction made was by the Coast and Geodetic Survey, in 1887, and known as Chart 3035[a]. No contemporaneous engraving was made with L'Enfant's name, although Charles Evans in his "American bibliography," v. 8, title no. 24471, gives the title of the map carrying the name of L'Enfant in the title and Philadelphia, printed by John Dunlap, 1792, but as no such copy has come to light and no other reference has been made to it, nothing further can be said.

It is well for the cartography of the District that the Government saw fit to reproduce the L'Enfant map from the original, which from age and use shows considerable wear and tear. The copy made by the Coast and Geodetic Survey is an exact reproduction and measures within the border 31½ x 47 inches. The first two engraved maps of Washington do not mention L'Enfant's name. The story of his various troubles with the powers controlling the destiny of the city, are too well known to go into any further detail. The following letter from Andrew Ellicott, which must be taken with a grain of salt (for he was not beyond criticism), has many points of contemporaneous conditions and present interest:

"Philadelphia,
Feb. 23, 1792.

"Gentlemen:

"On my arrival in this city, I found that no preparation was made for an engraving of the plan of the City of Washington, upon this representation being made to the President and Secretary of State, I was directed to furnish one for an engraver, which with the aid of my Brother was compleated last monday and handed to the President.

In this business we met with difficulties of a very serious nature. Major L'Enfant refused us the use of the Original. What his motives were God knows—The plan which we have furnished, I believe will be found to answer the ground better than the large one in the Major's hands—I have engaged two good artists (both Americans) to execute the engraving, and who will begin the work as soon as the President comes to a determination respecting some small alterations. In several conferences which I have had with the President, and Secretary of State, on the subject of the City of Washington, I have constantly mentioned the necessity of system in the execution of the business; without which there can be neither economy, certainty, nor decision—The Major has both a lively fancy and decision; but unfortunately no system; which renders the other qualification much less valuable, and in some cases useless,—I suspect that measures are now taking, which will either reduce the Major to the necessity of submitting to the legal arrangements, or deserting the City.

"I have drawn an order on you for a sum of money in favor of Mr. George Grundy of Baltimore, which you will please to consider as on behalf of myself, and two Brothers:

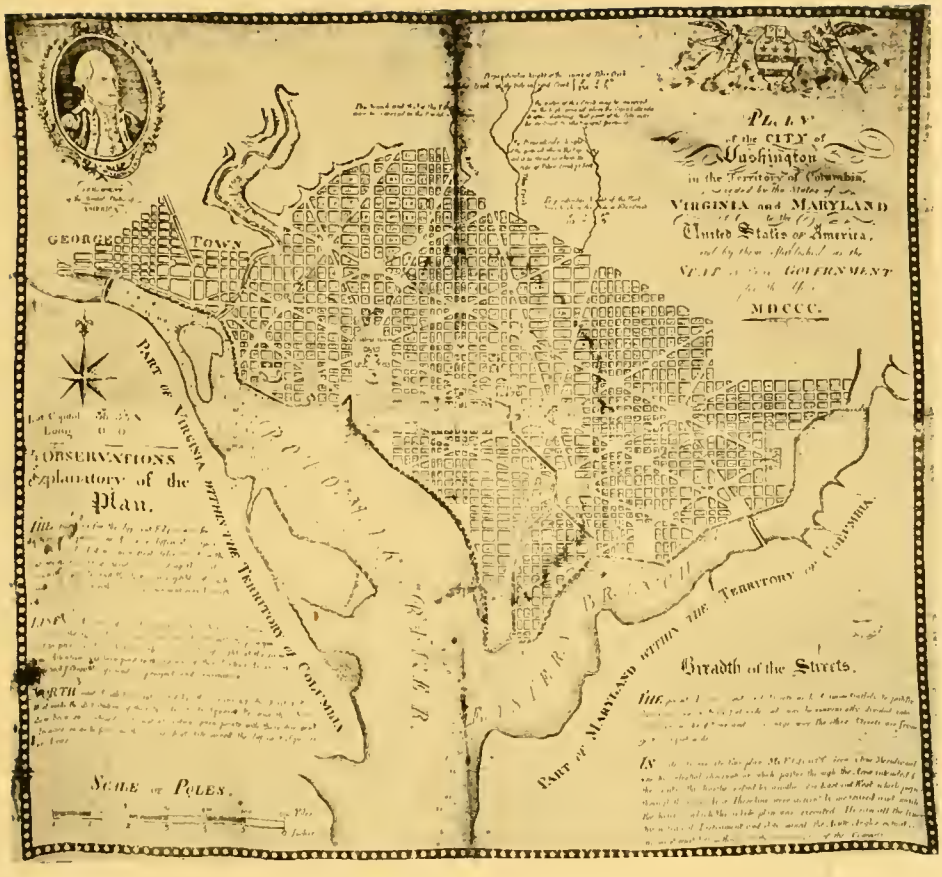
"I am, Gentlemen, with Great Respect, Your Hbl. Serv't.

AND'W ELLICOTT.

Thomas Johnson, Daniel Carroll and David Stuart, Esq's."

Official recognition was given to this by the Committee appointed to act on the matter in a report to the House of Representatives, April 8, 1802:

"Your committe find that the plan of the city was originally designed by Mr. L'Enfant, but that it was, in many respects, rejected by the President of the United States, and a plan drawn up by Mr. Ellicott, purporting to have been made from actual survey, which recognized the alterations made therein, and which was engraved and published by order of General Washington, in the year 1792. This plan was circulated throughout the United States, and sent to our public agents, in Europe, by authority of the Government as the plan of the city and is the only one which has ever been engraved and published. This is generally known by the appelation of the engraved plan."



Handkerchief plan. 1792. — p 38.

The first engraved map of Washington was made by Samuel Hill, a well-known map engraver of Boston. It was hurriedly done so that it could be used at the second public sale of lots, which commenced in October, 1792. Although the L'Enfant map is the prototype, this map does not in any place mention L'Enfant's name. It is about a quarter of the size of the L'Enfant map, and has more the characteristics of it than does the second engraved map, known as the "engraved map" or "official map," published by Thackara & Vallance, in November of the same year (1792) The triangular shape of Georgetown, the printed line "Road leading from the canal at the lower falls, distant 3½ miles," the soundings in the Potomac and Eastern Branch not given, are some of the characteristics. In the "Massachusetts Magazine" for May, 1792, a small impression of this map by "S. Hill" was made, but without the inset descriptive text. The following note relating to this map is taken from the "Columbia historical society, Records," v. 2, 1899, in an article by John Stewart, entitled: "Early maps and surveyors of the city of Washington, D. C." pp. 55-56:

"At the time when L'Enfant withheld his plan, his former assistant, Mr. Ellicott, went to Philadelphia, and, with the assistance of his two brothers, prepared another plan of the city, from a copy he had of L'Enfant's. He wrote to the Commissioners, February 23, 1792, saying: 'Major L'Enfant refused us the use of the original plan; what his motives were, God knows. The plan which we have furnished, I believe, will be found to answer the ground better than the large one in the Major's hands.' This plan of Ellicott's was given to Samuel Blodgett, Jr., to have it engraved at the City of Boston, and it was engraved there by Samuel Hill in 1792; a proof-sheet of it was sent to Secretary of State Jefferson at Philadelphia, who wrote to the Commissioners on July 11, 1792, saying: 'I now send a proof-sheet of the plan of the town engraving at Boston. I observe the soundings of the creek and river are not in it. It would be well to know of Mr. Ellicott whether they were on the original sent to Boston. If not, you will probably think it desirable to insert in this proof-sheet and send it to Boston, addressed to Mr. Blodget, under

whose care the engraving is going on.' Mr. Ellicott, having admitted that he did not show the soundings on his plan, was directed to insert them upon the proof-sheet; but prior to returning the proof-sheet to Boston, the engraving was received by Mr. Jefferson, and his soundings were never inserted therein.

"The explanatory reference on L'Enfant's 1792 Philadelphia engraving, in which Ellicott's name is given, was placed there by L'Enfant, who placed his own name in its legend, stating 'By Peter Charles L'Enfant.' By withholding the legend, and continuing the reference, assistant Ellicott has been honored at the expense of his superior, and confirming that honor by placing the same reference on his own Boston engraving.

"The L'Enfant Philadelphia engraving was first sold at 4 s. 8½ d. and Ellicott's Boston engraving at 2 s. 6 d. showing which of the two was the better."

The water-mark on the Hill engraving is a fleur-de-lis surmounted by a crown and shield, at the bottom of which are the letters "G. B." On the opposite side of the page is the name "Budgen."

Contemporaneous to this map is a broadside signed by George Washington relating to the sale of lots, which for its extreme rarity should be recorded.

"TERMS and CONDITIONS declared by the PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, this seventeenth day of October, seventeen hundred and ninety-one, for regulating the Materials and Manner of the Buildings and Improvements on the LOTS in the CITY of WASHINGTON.

"1st. THAT the outer and party-walls of all houses within the said City shall be built of brick or stone.

"2d. That all buildings on the streets shall be parallel thereto, and may be advanced to the line of the street, or withdrawn thereis about to be erected, neither the foundation or party-wall shall from, at the pleasure of the improver. But where any such building be begun without first applying to the person or persons appointed by the Commissioners to superintend the buildings within the city,

View of Washington. 1850.

who will ascertain the lines of the walls to correspond with these regulations.

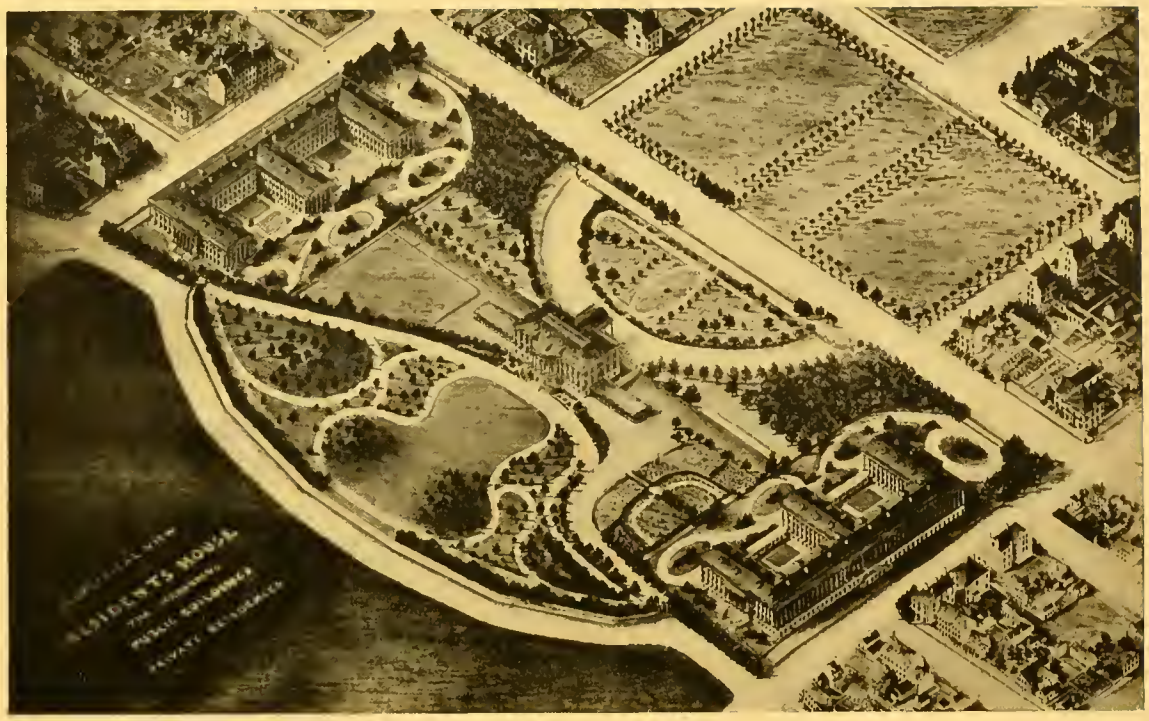
"3d. The wall of no house to be higher than forty feet to the roof in any part of the city; nor shall any be lower than thirty-five feet on any of the avenues.

"4th. That the person or persons appointed by the Commissioners to superintend the buildings may enter on the land of any person to set out the foundation and regulate the walls to be built between party and party, as to the breadth and thickness thereof: Which foundation shall be laid equally upon the lands of the persons between whom such party-walls are to be built, and shall be of the breadth and thickness determined by such person proper; and the first builder shall be reimbursed one moiety of the charge of such party-wall, or so much thereof as the next builder shall have occasion to make use of, before such next builder shall any ways use or break into the wall —The charge or value thereof to be set by the person or persons so appointed by the Commissioners.

"5th. As temporary conveniences will be proper for lodging workmen and securing materials for building, it is to be understood that such may be erected with the approbation of the Commissioners: But they may be removed or discontinued by the special order of the Commissioners.

"6th. The way into the squares being designed in a special manner for the common use and convenience of the occupiers of the respective squares—The property in the same is reserved to the public, so that there may be an immediate interference on any abuse of the use thereof by any individual, to the nuisance or obstruction of others. The proprietors of the Lots adjoining the entrance into the squares, on arching over the entrance, and fixing gates in the manner the Commissioners shall approve, shall be intitled to divide the space over the arching and build it up with the range of that line of the square.

"7th. No vaults shall be permitted under the streets, nor any encroachments on the foot-way above by steps, stoops, porches, cellar doors, windows, ditches or leaning walls; nor shall there be any projection over the street, other than the eves of the house, without the consent of the Commissioners.



View of President's House, about 1845.

"8th. These regulations are the terms and conditions under and upon which conveyances are to be made, according to the deeds in trust of the lands within the city.

GEORGE WASHINGTON."

.....

"TERMS of SALE of LOTS in the CITY of WASHINGTON, the EIGHTH DAY of *OCTOBER*, 1792.

ALL Lands purchased at this Sale, are to be subject to the Terms and Conditions declared by the President, pursuant to the Deeds in Trust.

"The purchaser is immediately to pay one fourth part of the purchase money; the residue is to be paid in three equal annual payments, with yearly interest of six per cent, on the whole principal unpaid: If any payment is not made at the day, the payments made are to be forfeited, or the whole principal and interest unpaid may be recovered on one suit and execution, in the option of the Commissioners.

"The purchaser is to be entitled to a conveyance, on the whole purchase money and interest being paid, and not before. No bid under THREE Dollars to be received."

The second engraved map was made by Thackara and Vallance, published in Philadelphia and dated 1792. This is known as the "Official map," and the "Engraved map," but it is sometimes called the "Philadelphia plate." It measures about 21 x 29 inches, which makes it twice the size of the Boston engraving and half the size in measurements of the original L'Enfant. As this is the most important of the engraved maps, a full description may be appropriate. It contains "Observations explanatory of the plan," and "Breadth of the streets." The plats are numbered, and the soundings given to the "Potomack" river and the Eastern Branch. No names are given to the islands. The bridge across the Eastern Branch is without name, and also higher up is a view of the Memorial Bridge. "George Town" is larger and in detail, and has not the triangular outline, as in the

Hill map, and the bridge is shown across the Potomac. Rock Creek is so called, and above Reedy Branch is this statement: "This branch and that of the Tiber may be conveyed to the president's house." Tiber Creek is so called and has descriptive notes attached.

Various reproductions of these two engraved maps have been made to illustrate contemporaneous books and magazine articles. They have been used in endless legal cases by the Government and by individuals.

The case of the *United States vs. M. F. Morris et al,* known as the Potomac flats case, published in seven volumes is rich in the reproduction of early maps of Washington, which fact shows the vast amount of research used in this legal battle.

In the preparation of the map of the city, Major L'Enfant was assisted by the following plans of European cities, which Thomas Jefferson loaned from his collection: Frankfort on the Mayne, Carlsruhe, Amsterdam, Strasberg, Paris, Orleans, Bordeaux, Lyons, Montpelier, Marseilles, Turin, and Milan. Among the maps in the vast collection of the Library of Congress, efforts have been made to identify these plans by the well-known signature with which Jefferson used to mark his material. They have not been found in the collection, and the inference is that if they were turned over to the Library with his books, they were destroyed in the fire which took place in 1851. The first catalogue of the Library mostly of Jefferson's books, and made according to his classification, mentions in page 1171, a "Collection of plans of Towns. gr. fol.", which may have contained these plans.

Reference has been made in various publications to the fact that in March 14, 1792, Stephen Hallet prepared a reduced copy upon silk from L'Enfant's great plan. Maps made on silk and cloth in the shape of a handkerchief were characteristic of early days in this country. There is an exact reproduction on cotton of the Thackara & Vallance engraving of 1792, with square numbers and the soundings, the only difference being that at the top left hand corner is a

View of Washington. 1852.

medallion portrait of George Washington, underneath which is printed "President of the United States of America." It has a narrow dark border with stars in the center. A somewhat similar impression is known, which is evidently taken from the Boston engraving of Samuel Hill; on this the square numbers and soundings are omitted. It is colored red, with each corner illustrated with figures blowing horns, crowned woman with scales, ship taking on cargo, indian seated on a barrel smoking a pipe, and flags and tobacco plant; also a collection of various agricultural products, such as corn, wheat and so forth.

A description of a cloth map similar in many respects to these is found in an address by F. R. Diffenderfer on Andrew Ellicott, published in the *Lancaster county historical society papers, v. 5, p. 57-67.* This map the author describes as being of great rarity, but the number of plans on cloth, which are found in the Library of Congress, would appear to contradict this statement.

While there is considerable doubt as to how much of the first engraved map of Washington, is the work of Ellicott, there is no question that he is responsible for the first topographical map of the ten mile square, composing the District of Columbia. The map was engraved and ready to be used in 1794, and was used in all topographical maps up to the one made by Albert Boschke in 1861. This map by Ellicott is entitled: "Territory of Columbia. Drawn by Andw. Ellicott." It has a scale of 2 inches to 1 mile, or 1:31680, and measures in inches 22 x 22. He was employed by the Commissioners of the District in the year 1792, and in January 1, 1793, he made the following report of the survey to them:

"It is with singular satisfaction that I announce to you the completion of the survey of the four lines comprehending the Territory of Columbia. These lines are opened and cleared forty feet wide; that is, twenty feet on each side of the lines limiting the Territory; and in order to perpetuate the work, I have set up square milestones, marked progressively with the number of miles from the beginning

on Jones's Point to the west corner; thence from the west corner; thence from the north corner to the east corner, and thence to the place of beginning on Jones's Point, except as to a few cases where the miles terminated on a declivity or in water; in such cases the stones are placed on the nearest firm ground, and their true distances in miles and poles marked on them. On the sides facing the Territory is inscribed, 'Jurisdiction of the United States'; on the opposite sides of those placed in the state of Maryland is inscribed 'Maryland'. On the fourth side is inscribed the year and the present position of the magnetic needle at the place. With this you will receive a map of the four lines, with a half mile on each side, to which is added a survey of the waters in the Territory and a plan of the city of Washington."

A manuscript in the State Department which is evidently a memorandum or day book of the daily transactions in the District, numbered "187" contains the following entry:

"July 6, 1793.

"Andrew Ellicott deposited a map by him executed of the four lines including the territory of Columbia with the several waters mentioned in his report to the Commissioners of 1st January instant."

In a letter dated January 27, 1795 (*Commisioners' Letters Received vol. 5, no. 496*), George Taylor, Jr., chief clerk of the State Department, refers to Mr. Scott's account for engraving a map of the territory. Scott took the contract for printing (after they were engraved) the Boston and Philadelphia maps of the city of Washington. The map was therefore evidently engraved in 1794, by Thackara & Vallance. This Scott is probably Joseph T. Scott, who published at Philadelphia, in 1796, an atlas of the United States, printed by Francis and Robert Bailey.

Andrew Ellicott wrote to the "Commissioners for the public buildings in the city of Washington," dated Surveyor's office, December 9, 1793:

"The map of the Territory of Columbia has been some months in the hands of the engraver and will be finished early in the Spring;

Tiber Creek. 1839.

but, in order to make it useful, it will be necessary to have it accompanied with an explanation and description of the country, with the several advantages for Atlantic commerce and inland navigation."

Whether the "Explanation and description" mentioned here were ever published is not known. In this map no soundings are given to either the Potomac river or Eastern Branch. The islands are called Mason's Island and Alexander's Island. It shows the road to Frederick, Rock Creek road, Bladensburg road, road to Marlboro, road from the Falls, and the old canal. The Coast and Geodetic Survey has reproduced this map as chart no. 2059.

It is not the intention in this monograph to describe all the many maps of Washington, as the more recent ones have little historic or cartographical changes. There are, however, a few which have certain points of view which make them of considerable interest. The most important and original map published since the L'Enfant and Ellicott plans was the Rt. King map. It has no date of publication, but that of 1820 is frequently given to it, as a copy was known to have been placed in the cavity for the foundation stone of the City Hall, in August 22, 1820. The absolute date is, however, found from the following advertisement published in the "Daily National Intelligencer," for Friday, February 27, 1818, which sufficiently describes the contents:

"A new and correct Map of the city of Washington: Drawn from actual survey, by Robert King, Esq. city surveyor, and engraved by C. Schwarz. An authentic plan of the Metropolis of the United States has long been a desiderarum, not only persons holding property and those who wish to purchase lots in this fast improving city, but with all who feel an interest in its rising prosperity. The plans hitherto published are not only on too small a scale, and too indistinct for easy reference, but are *notoriously incorrect,* and become obsolete from various alterations which have since been made.

"The one now offered to the public, it is confidently presumed, will fully supply these defects. Its accuracy cannot be questioned, having been made from actual survey on the ground, and adjusted con-

formably to the subsequent and final alterations authorized by the President of the United States.

"It is printed on a beautiful paper made expressly for the purpose —its size 33 inches by 26. The avenues, streets and squares are distinctly marked and numbered—the various springs and runs which intersect the ground are carefully laid down—the eminences designated so as to enable persons at a distance to form a correct idea of the surface of the city—and the engraving executed in a very superior style. It is embellished with a view of the south front of the President's house, and of the east front of the capitol, taken from the original draughts; the whole forming not only a safe guide in all transfers of property, but a very handsome ornament for the parlor or counting room.

"The price is 3 dollars in the sheet, or 5 dollars handsomely mounted on rollers, or done up in a book form for the convenience of travellers.

"The subscriber being appointed sole agent for the sale of the above map, it may be had on application at his music and book store, Pennsylvania avenue.

W. COOPER."

Besides the points of interest brought out in this map by the publisher's circular, it is the only one which gives some idea of the house and grounds of "Mason's I." This island is first mentioned in Augustine Herrman's rare map of Virginia and Maryland, published in 1673. It is there called "Anacostien Ile," from the Indian tribe located in the vicinity, and shares its derivation with "Potowmack falls" and "Turky Buzzard Point," the only mentioned locations near the future city of Washington. After Herrman's map and a few copyists who came later, the name seemed to have disappeared from all maps up to the one published in 1851 by Lloyd Van Derveer, where it is called "Analostan or Mason's Island." Previous to its purchase in 1777, by the distinguished Virginia statesman, George Mason (born 1726, and died 1792), the island was called My Lord's Island, Barbadoes, Anacostian, and later Mason's Island and Analostan. The island was inherited by General and Senator Stevens Thomson Mason,

Capitol. 1839.

who seemed to have made it the seat of many noteworthy social gatherings. To read the description of the place by David Baillie Warden in his "A chorographical . . . description of the District of Columbia" published in 1816, and which is here reprinted, one would think it was an earthly Paradise, which alas! from present conditions is hard to believe.

"ANNALOSTAN ISLAND.

"Annalostan Island, the seat of General Mason, is situated in the river Potomac, opposite Georgetown, and contains nearly seventy acres. A flat boat, of a rude construction, awkwardly impelled by an oar, placed near each extremity, affords a safe conveyance between the island and the main land, a distance of about two hundred yards. The profits of the ferry are rented by General Mason for the sum of seven hundred dollars a year. Before the erection of the Potomac bridge, it yielded more than double this amount. On one side, the island is now connected with the main land by an artificial mound, or causeway, which was raised at the expense of the government, for the purpose of stopping the current on this side of the island, and thereby increasing the depth of the water in the Georgetown Channel. This current, in 1784, was considerably deepened by the passage of an immense quantity of ice, that forced itself down after a sudden thaw, and carried with it large masses of the muddy bottom. The Georgetown Channel has been but little deepened by the erection of this causeway. Mr. Custis proposed to open a passage for vessels by means of floodgates: he observes, that there were formerly from fifteen to twenty-six feet of water in this channel. Near the close of the year 1810, it was proposed to confine the current by mechanical means, and to remove the soft bottom by increasing the velocity of the water. For this purpose, the corporation of Georgetown entered into a contract with the proprietor of this plan, engaging to pay the sum of eight thousand dollars for its execution, with the guarantee of its duration for the space of two years. If, at the expiration of this time, there remained fifteen feet depth of water from the Eastern branch to Georgetown, they were to receive an additional sum of two thousand dollars; otherwise, to expend from their own funds, for other necessary labours, a sum not exceeding three thousand dollars.

"Annalostan Island is evidently of modern formation. In search-

ing for water, a mass of trees was discovered at the depth of fifteen feet. General Mason instructed a workman (Bryan Duffy) to cut through them. After having removed several of large dimensions, he threw aside his axe, swearing by J——s 'that he now met huge ones with their tops upwards.' In other places, water was found at the depth of twenty-five or thirty feet. The highest eminence, on which the house stands, is fifty feet above the level of the river. The common tide arises to the height of three feet. I can never forget how delighted I was with my first visit to this island. The amiable ladies whom I had the pleasure to accompany left their carriage at Georgetown, and we walked to the mansion-house under a delicious shade. The blossoms of the cherry, apple, and peach trees, of the hawthorn and aromatic shrubs, filled the air with their fragrance. We found Mrs. M. at home, in the midst of her family, composed of nine children. Twin boys, of a healthy mien, and so like each other as scarcely to be distinguished, were tumbling on the carpet of the saloon, full of joy and merriment. Mrs. M. has so youthful an appearance, that a stranger might readily suppose her to be the sister of her daughter rather than her mother.

"The house, of a simple and neat form, is situated near the side of the island which commands a view of the Potomac, the President's House, Capitol and other buildings. The garden, the sides of which are washed by the waters of the river, is ornamented with a variety of trees and shrubs, and, in the midst, there is a lawn covered with a beautiful verdure.

"In July, 1811, Mrs. M. gave a rural dance to the friends and acquaintance of her son, at the eve of his departure for France. Though the weather had been excessively warm during the day, in the evening there was a delicious breeze. The young people danced on the lawn. Tea, coffee, cakes, fresh and preserved fruits, were presented to the guests, who sat or walked about conversing, or silently admiring the dance under the shade of trees, illuminated by lamps, which were half obscured by the bright light of the moon. The summer-house is shaded by oak and linden-trees, the coolness and tranquility of which invite to contemplation. The refreshing breezes of the Potomac, and the gentle murmuring of its water against the rocks, the warbling of birds, and the mournful aspect of weeping-willows, inspire a thousand various sensations. What a delicious shade—

Contemplated Monument. 1846.

'Ducere solicitae jucunda oblivia vitae.'

"The view from this spot is delightful. It embraces the picturesque banks of the Potomac, a portion of the city, and an expanse of water, of which the bridge terminates the view. Numerous vessels ply backwards and forwards to animate the scene. Directing the eye over a corner of the garden, we perceive the sails only, as if by enchantment, gliding through the trees. A few feet below the summer-house the rocks afford seats, where those who are fond of fishing may indulge in this amusement. From the portico on the opposite side of the house, Georgetown, Calorama, the beautiful seat of Joel Barlow, Esq. and the adjacent finely-wooded hills, appear through a vista. To the left there is a prospect of the fields and woods on the opposite banks of the river. Every part of the island is romantic. Hawthorn and cedar hedges, and an improved cultivation, indicate taste and agricultural knowledge. By means of an hydraulic machine, water may be easily raised from the river, and conducted by pipes to every part of the surface.

"This island has a great variety of trees and shrubs, owing to the seeds brought by the stream from mountainous regions—different species of oak, walnut, mulberry, poplar, locust, ash, willow, the papaw and spindle tree, or burning-bush.

"At the summer-house there is a white walnut of about a foot in diameter, perforated by a grape vine of three inches, in circumference, which has been squeezed to death by the growth of the tree.

"Near the causey there is a species of eglantine, thirty feet in length, and three inches in diameter, which is supported by a neighbouring friendly tree.

"The poison-oak, or poison-vine, grows here, and entwines itself among trees, but is easily distinguished by the mossy appearance of the stem. Its touch creates an irruption over the body, which is usually accompanied by fever; and this disease is said to renew itself yearly about the time of the first attack. The poison-ash, or fringe-tree, grows at the extremity of the island, near the causey. A foreign plant of this species was sent to General Mason as a curiosity, and it was recognized by a farmer, unacquainted with botany, to be the same as that which inhabits the American woods.

"The Virginia jessamine grows in all parts of the island, entwining itself among trees and bushes. It flowers in June. The flowers during sun-shine, are infested with red ants.

"Several species of asclepias grow here.—That with purple flowers, which blows in July, contains in its seed capsules, a kind of silk, which, mixed with cotton, forms a very durable thread.

"The asclepias with orange flowers is here called pleurisy-root, a name derived from this malady, for which it is supposed to be a sovereign remedy. A decoction of the root is a powerful sudorific, and is employed by the blacks as a cure for all diseases.

"The crimson flowers of the American redbud, or Judas-tree, appear early in spring, and have a fine effect.

"The sassafras-tree thrives well here: its leaves are the first which change their colour in autumn. Mrs. M. informed me, that an infusion of them affords a beverage of a pleasant aromatic taste, which might be employed as a substitute for tea.

"General Mason cultivates, for the use of his family, a species of cotton of the colour of nankeen, which is spun and woven with facility, and wears well without losing its natural hue. Great pains were taken to prevent its sexual intercourse with other species of cotton, and yet its colour is not uniform. Some pods have a shade of yellow, others are whitish, and must be separated from those of the natural nankeen colour. If some shades remain it is no disadvantage, as the colour becomes uniform by the operation of carding. General Mason, not knowing how he obtained this species of cotton, conjectured that the seeds had been brought from China or India. On my voyage to France, on board the Constitution frigate, I was one day perusing a small volume, entitled, 'An Epitome of the History of Malta and Gozo,' by Charles Wilkinson, lent to me by the purser, Mr. Garretson; in which it is stated, that three kinds of cotton are there cultivated, and that one imported from the Antilles, is of a cinnamon colour. Mr. Morris, first lieutenant of the frigate, with whom I happened to converse on this subject, informed me, that he had carried some of the seeds of this species to General Mason, from his brother-in-law then at Naples, and not finding the former at home when he called to deliver this present, he left the seed, without any indication concerning its origin.

"This author observes, that the seed is sown in April; that the head of the plant is cut in September to let the cotton spread, which is gathered in October; that the plants are left in the ground three or four years, and are staked every spring, like raspberry-plants in

White House about 1840.

England; that this method saves the trouble of annual sowing and cultivation; and he adds, that a square piece of fruitful soil, containing four hundred and twenty geometrical yards, produces five hundred pounds of cotton.

"The soil of General Mason's island, and of neighbouring tracts of land, is good for cotton, but the summer is not long enough to bring the plant to maturity; and it is liable to be injured by frost before it is ripe.

"General Mason cultivates a species of maize (zea-mays), the leaves of which, of a deep purple colour, are employed as a dye. For this purpose, they are gathered before the grain ripens, when they contain the greatest quantity of sap. With mordants of alum and copperas, wool is dyed of different shades of purple. The plant is vigorous, and has a great number of grains. I had the honour of presenting some of the seeds to the Empress Josephine, who sowed them with her own hand in the gardens of Malmaison, where they gave a luxuriant produce.

"This island is the resort of various reptiles. We found the nest of a terrapin, or fresh-water turtle, in the garden, at the distance of about thirty feet from the water, containing nineteen eggs, laid close to each other, and the interstices filled with earth. The greater circumference of the egg was four inches and a half; the lesser, three. The nest, or hole, was of an oval form, and four inches in depth. The eggs of this species are deposited from the first of June to the middle of July. Before the turtle commences the formation the hole for her eggs, she urines on the spot, then scrapes out a little earth, again urines, and thus continues until the operation is finished. I saw another nest, from which the turtle was taken at the moment when she had placed herself in an almost erect position to deposit her eggs, which she always performs during the day, and, it is said, never returns to the spot. The young ones are hatched by the heat of the sun, and are supposed to remain in the nest till spring. Several persons, whom I consulted on this subject, assured me, that they have turned them up with the plough at this season. The turtle, when shaken before she lays her eggs, makes a hollow noise, as if she contained water. One in this state weighed six pounds, which, it appears, is the common size. The species known by the name of the terrapin is very shy, and ceases to walk as soon as it sees a person approach it. When endeavouring to escape, it runs nearly as fast

as a duck. The blacks make soup and eat the eggs of this species, of which they are very fond.

"The snapping turtle is also seen in the waters of this river, some of which weigh from forty to fifty pounds, and lay forty or fifty eggs. General Mason, some years ago, caught one of huge size, which he threw into his canoe, and it attacked him so furiously therein that he was obliged to leap into the water. The reptile followed, and thus made its escape. Its bite is severe and dangerous.

"Two species of fresh-water tortoises inhabit the island; namely, the painted tortoise, *emys picta* or *testudo picta,* and the streaked tortoise, *emys virgulata.* The sternum of the first, with ten compartments, is almost as long as the shell, truncated at the extremities, and solidly united to the shell, of which the plates of the disk, thirteen in number, are bordered with irregular yellow stripes. In its circumference there are twenty-five pieces. The anterior part is narrow, and nearly of an equal breadth: the head is flattened, of a blackish colour, with yellow spots. The anterior feet are half-palmated, and the hinder are wholly palmated. The tail appears considerably beyond the shell. The other species has been described by Bosc, under the name of *emyde,* or fresh-water turtle; by Latreille, under that of the small striped turtle; and by Lacepede, under that of *la bombee.*

"The head of the painted turtle manifested symptoms of life two hours after decapitation. Three cherry stones were found in the stomach. It is said that small snails are its daily food. This species is not eaten. The musk-rat inhabits the banks of this island. The surface being now cleared, there is no place for its habitation, which was formerly constructed of vegetable substances, in the midst of the reeds of a marsh, and was generally five or six feet in height, and as many in breadth. The family reposed in a dry and neat apartment above the surface of the water, into which they descended when attacked, and retreated by a subterraneous passage to a neighbouring stream. If the family were numerous, there were three such passages; if otherwise, one or two only. A method of taking them, practised by the savages, was to discover and intercept this communication, by means of knots of twisted grass. The animal then returned to the water under its abode, where, forced to seek air, it shewed its head, and was struck dead with a stick or club. The musk-rat abounds in the swamps adjoining the Potomac Bridge, and is killed by

White House. 1830.

the blacks in a curious manner. A square board, bearing a considerable weight of stone or mud, is placed in an inclined position, and is supported by three sticks in a particular manner. Parsnips are put underneath, of which the rats are very fond; while devouring them, they necessarily move one of these sticks, by which the board suddenly falls, and crushes them to death, the skin sells at twenty-five cents.

"The deer, wild turkey, canvas-back duck, and wild geese, which inhabited this place about fifty years ago, have all disappeared. This species of duck, so delicious to the taste, was then sold for sixpence.

"The following method was formerly employed to kill the wild goose. This bird, shy and cunning, feeds in the midst of a plain or open field, and forms a regular line, at the extremity of which is placed a centinel, to give warning in case of danger, which, if remote, is indicated by a certain position of the head, and if imminent, by a certain cry. The sportsman, by means of a docile horse, which concealed him from view, approached slowly, until he brought them within the reach of his gun.

"By an act of 1730, the shooting of deer was prohibited from the first of January to the first of August. The penalty was four hundred pounds of tobacco. By other acts of 1728, any master, mistress, owner of a family, or single taxeable person, was obliged to produce yearly, to the justice of the county, three squirrel scalps, or crows' heads. The penalty in this case was three pounds of tobacco. A premium of two pounds was given for every scalp more than three. The reward for a wolf's head was two hundred pounds.

"Annalostan Island abounds with birds of various kinds. The catbird is almost tame. When its nest is in danger, it makes a loud noise, and seems as if it would tear the face of the person who approaches it. We saw in the garden a partridge nest, containing nineteen eggs. The humming-bird frequents this place. When caught, it feigns death, like the opossum, and, by means, escapes from the hand. We saw one thus escape from the pretty hand of Mrs. B——e.

"The mocking-bird does not frequent this island, though it is even on the adjacent borders of the river. Perhaps it has been expelled by the crow black-bird, its natural enemy, which swarms in this place. It is a pity that so enchanting a spot is deprived of the notes of this inimitable songster.

"General Mason, who has contributed so much to the introduction and propagation of the Merino breed of sheep, furnished us with the annexed table, interesting to farmers. . . ."

It seems a long period from the map of Robert King of 1818, to the very important one made by W. J. Stone, about 1839; within this time there were some maps made on a small scale, but none of sufficient importance to make them noteworthy. This map by Stone is entitled. "Map of the city of Washington in the District of Columbia, established as the permanent seat of the government of the United States of America. W. J. Stone, sc. Washⁿ." Scale, 1 mile to 5½ in. Measurement in inches within the border, 23½ x 30½ inches. In the lower left hand corner there is found a table of "References," which directs to most of the prominent places in the city. Six wards are numbered within the map. The first map to mention these wards was the small Wᵐ. Elliott map, published in his Washington guide for 1822. This number of wards was given in all the maps up to 1850, when in the map by Van Derveer seven wards are given, and that number was used up to 1874, when this city division was eliminated. The old residents or those who are now facetiously called the "cave-dwellers," which nick-name they at first resented, but now glory in, and look upon as designation of honor, can well remember that they located each other's residence by the ward in which they lived, such as "in the first ward," etc.

The first map by W. J. Stone was engraved for Peter Force's "National Calendar, 1820." It is a good piece of work, measuring in inches 16 x 21. The interest in it now would be the inset pictures of the White House and Capitol. The large map of Stone's published in 1839?, and which was reproduced by an act of Congress in 1852, and described above is very much larger in size. It has, however, none of the pictures shown in the earlier map.

Stone and his wife were so identified with early engravings in the District that the following notice, taken from "Eminent and rep-

Washington. 1861.

resentative men of Virginia and the District of Columbia," may be of interest here:

"William James Stone, Sr., was born in London on the 25th of April, 1798; during infancy he was left an orphan, and was brought over from England to this country by his uncle, in the year 1804. He received a common school education, at Lower Dublin Academy, kept by John W. Chapman near Holmesburg, Penn. He learned the art of line engraving with Peter Maverick, a noted steel engraver in New York City; having as a fellow-pupil Asher B. Durand, the artist, who afterwards executed the masterly engravings of Trumbull's 'Declaration of Independence,' and Vanderline's 'Ariadne.' From that time until recently engravers like James Smillie, Sr., A. H. Ritchie, John Marshall and J. C. Buttre have carried this art to a high degree of excellence. Mr. Stone settled in Washington city in 1815, and he resided in the District of Columbia for upward of fifty years, until he died January 17, 1865. . . . The fac-simile of the Declaration of American Independence was engraved on copper by Mr. Stone, with his own hand, for the department of state, by order of the Secretary of State, John Quincy Adams, July 4, 1823. This fine work of the engravers art will preserve to future generations of the United States that proud monument of our country's freedom and liberty. . . . In 1843 Mr. Stone, having retired from business, removed to his country place, 'Mt. Pleasant,' which he had chosen as his future home. . . ."

In the back of the first Washington directory, by Judah Delano, 1822, there is a quaint advertisement printed on orange colored paper representing a cupid in the clouds supporting an oval containing the words "W. J. Stone, engraver, Washington & C. P. printer." In the city directories in the Library of Congress, there is no reference to Stone as an engraver after 1843, when he resided at "Pa side D n btw 11 & 12 cor 11." In the dirctory of 1822 he is entered as "engraver and copper-plate printer, n. side Penn av btw 12 and 13 w."

The "Map of the city of Washington. Published by John Brannan 1828. Drawn by F. C. DeKrafft, city survey. Engd. by Mrs. W. I. Stone," differs in but few particulars from the early map of Mrs.

Stone's husband, made in 1822. This map was republished in Andrew Rothwell's "Laws of the corporation of the city of Washington, 1833," and frequently appeared without Mrs. Stone's name. It is a good clean piece of engraving and stands alone as the only map engraved by a woman.

While this paper is getting beyond the space allotted to the map description and beyond the "Beginnings," it would be an error to ignore a few maps which have local interest beyond the usual interest in such work. The two editions of the "Map of the city of Washington, D. C. James Keilly, surveyor. Lloyd Van Derveer, publisher, Camden, N. Jersey," of 1850 and 1851, contain interesting inset views of public buildings, the latter edition having more than the former. The south east view of the capitol is given without dome or wings, and with a fence and gateway; also a plan of Georgetown, proposed monument, General Post Office, Patent Office, Greenough's statue of Washington, National Observatory and Treasury are given. The edition of 1850 differs somewhat from that of 1851; the former does not give square numbers, but Masons' Island is so called; while in the 1851, it is called Analostan or Mason's Island, square numbers are given, and besides the above mentioned inset views, it shows also City Hall, Smithsonian Institution; other additions are the population of Georgetown, under the title, as 8366, table of the population of Washington, 1850, giving the aggregate 40,001, and a small map of the District of Columbia. There is still another copy of the map for 1851, which has other changes such as a table of "References," population of Georgetown given as 8000, etc.

It is a curious fact that in this edition of 1851, the name of the small island opposite Georgetown, Analostan, is for the first time mentioned in a map, since 1673, where it was called "Anacostien" by Augustine Herrman, in his map of Virginia and Maryland.

The "Map of Washington city, District of Columbia, seat of the Federal government, Respectfully dedicated to the senate and the house of representatives of the United States of North America. Sur-

First stage from Baltimore to Washington.

veyed and published by A. Boschke, 1857." Scale 500 feet to 1 inch, and measuring within the border 50 x 60 inches, is considered one of the best maps of the city. Around the margin are inset views of the U. S. Treasury, National Observatory, Military Asylum, Washington contemplated monument, Smithsonian Institution, Jackson's Statue by Mills, Navy Yard, Seal of the United States, U. S. Arsenal, Greenough's Statue of Washington, Columbia Armory, City Hall, Lunatic Asylum, Patent Office, Post Office, President's House, Portrait of George Washington and the U. S. Capitol.

Besides this large map which may well be considered a wall map, Albert Boschke published another which is the second topographical map of the District, the first one being that made by Andrew Ellicott, and published in 1794. This has been previously described. The title of the Boschke map reads "Topographical map of the District of Columbia surveyed in the year 1856, '57, '58 & '59 by A. Boschke. Engraved by D. McClelland, Washington, D. C." Scale, 4 inches to one mile, and measuring in inches within the border 40 x 40. The soundings are given to the Potomac river and the Eastern branch; the former extends to Alexandria where a small plan of that city is given. The course of the Chesapeake and Alexandrian canal, Georgetown and Alexandria road, Washington and Alexandria turnpike, and property owners in the suburbs are some of the interesting data shown. The original copper plates were seized by the government in 1861. Another topographical survey map entitled: "Topographical map of the original District of Columbia and environs, showing the fortifications around the city of Washington. By E. G. Arnold, 1862," suffered the same fate from the government, as most of the copies were suppressed because the map showed all the fortifications around the city, at a time when it was most desirable that they should not be known. The collector of Washington maps must be guarded as to purchasing a copy of this map, that is if one escaped the eye of the authorities; since a reproduction very similar to the original

was made for the twenty-sixth annual encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic, at Washington, D. C., 1902.

In this running dissertation on Washington maps, the various manuscript maps and those on specific subjects have not been considered; a reference should be made here to the two manuscript maps, one made in 1797-8, known as "the tin-case map," from having been enclosed in a tin case, and the other, the Nicolas King map of 1803. These maps were reproduced by the Coast and Geodetic Survey and were often used in cases involving land disputes in the District. These two maps have inserted interesting statements giving the complete history of the making.

In examining the maps described, the student can readily see that the ones of more than the usual cartographical interest, previous to the Civil War, are the L'Enfant, 1791; Ellicott (so called) or engraved, or official, 1792; King, 1818; Stone, 1839?; Van Derveer, 1850 & 1851; and the Boschke of 1857 & 1861.

The seeker after early records of the past is often handicapped by information regarding material which is either too scarce to be procured, or impossible to be found. Time has been so destructive to maps that cartographers are unable to state with certainty any positive opinion as to the existence of material to which only indistinct references have been made in out of the way sources. The Library of Congress has many examples of only one copy of a map which was originally published in a thousand or more. Few libraries know what they possess, nor do they publish any information relating to their material. J. G. Kohl has written an article on "Lost maps"; some of which have come to light and others may be found. For over four hundred years, that is from 1507 to 1901, the great wall map of Waldseemuller, of which one thousand copies were originally engraved, remained unknown.

Only one copy is known of Bernard Roman's three sheet map of Florida, 1774, to accompany his work on that state; so rare it is that bibliographers have made the statement that it did not exist; only one

Robert Cruikshank's cartoon of the White House. 1841.

copy of Augustine Herrman's "Map of Virginia and Maryland, 1673," which is in the British Museum. Many other examples may be mentioned in which such literary productions are either lost temporarily or permanently. An example of this is found in an advertisement published in the "Centinel of Liberty and Georgetown advertiser," Friday, June 24, 1796, of a map made by Thomas Freeman, who was surveyor of the District from March 25, 1794, to July 7, 1796:

"Proposals for publishing, by subscription, a plan of the City of Washington, by Thomas Freeman, Surveyor of the Territory of Columbia and City of Washington.
Conditions.

"I. This Plan shall be an elegant and correct Copperplate Impression, of about four feet square, whereon will be accurately delineated the natural state of the ground contained with the lines of the City —Plaines, Valleys, rising Grounds, Springs, Runs, Creeks, &c. —with the lines of the City, Grand Avenues, Streets, Squares, Public Appropriations for Walks and Gardens, as now correctly laid out and permanently established—the River Potomak, and Eastern Branch, opposite the City—the Channels, Coasts, Harbours and Soundings of the same, as taken by order of the Board of Commissioners.

"II. On the sides of the Plan shall be represented a beautiful Elevation of the President's House and Capitol.

"III. To render the Drawing still more intelligible and useful, it shall be accompanied by a Pamphlet, containing all the Laws of the General and particular Governments, respecting the location and establishment of the City—the Orders and Regulations of the Board of Commissioners, approved by the President of the United States, respecting the purchase and improvement of Lots therein—a particular description of the City and adjacent Country—of River Potomak, with the Production, state of Cultivation, Commerce, Population, &c. of the Country through which that vast River flows.

"IV. This work will be published under the sanction of the Commissioners of the City, and Mr. Freeman pledges himself to make it as accurate, useful and interesting as possible.

"V. The price to Subscribers 5 Dollars, to be paid on reception of the Plan and Pamphlet.

Surveyors' Office, City of Washington, June 8, 1795.

Subscriptions will be taken at the Surveyor's Office in the City; Mr. Rice's Book Stores in Baltimore and Philadelphia; and at the principal Book-Stores on the Continent."

If a copy of this map were in existence with the descriptive pamphlet, it would fill a gap, and would be full of local interest.

Another item of great interest is advertised in the "National Magazine. Washington, Nov. 19, 1801, no. 3," which if ever published would be a rare entry for the collector of Washingtoniana.

"Proposals By Nicholas King, for Publishing by Subscription Two Views in the City of Washington. One of them to include the President's House and Executive Offices:—the other, the Capitol, as they were in the Spring of the year of 1801.

"Terms.

"The size of the Plates to be 17 inches by 11 inches; and executed in a superior style of Engraving.

"The Prints will be delivered to the subscriber at 5 dollars, the pair; or 10 dollars the pair in gilt frames. The money to be paid on the delivery of the Prints."

There has been a scheme in the minds of many interested in the improvement of the city, to create in the Mall a geographical garden. That there is nothing new under the sun, applies also to this, for as far back as 1824, one Ira Hill, supposedly of Hagerstown and Baltimore, author of a volume entitled: "Antiquities of America explained, 1831," suggested the idea in a memorial to Congress, which memorial seems to be another lost publication. The only knowledge of it is from a French monthly entitled, "Journal des voyages . . . Par J. T. Verneur. 8°. Paris, Colnet, 1824. v. 11, pp. 135-136." The following notices of the memorial are copied from the *Journal of the House of Representatives, 18th cong., 1st sess. 1823-4, p. 454* and *578:*

The house of David Burnes.

"Mr. Little presented a petition of Ira Hill, of the city of Baltimore, soliciting the aid of Congress to enable him to form, in the city of Washington, a geographical garden; about ten acres of ground, and a sum, not exceeding ten thousand dollars, he considers necessary to the accomplishment of his purpose.

"*Ordered.* That the Joint Library Committee be discharged from the further consideration of the petition of Ira Hill, and that he have leave to withdraw the same."

For want of the original memorial, the following translation of the description in the "Journal des voyages," mentioned above, may suffice:

"A GEOGRAPHICAL GARDEN.

"A Mr. Ira Hill of Baltimore has just made to the Congress of the United States a proposition of a new kind. This citizen requests that he be granted ten acres of land and a sum of $10,000, that will enable him to establish a geographical garden in the city of Washington.

"The following quotations from the memoir of Mr. Ira Hill will give the reader an idea of his project. 'The author proposes to establish in the vicinity of the Capitol a geographical garden in which all parts of the known world will be exactly represented. The bottom of the oceans, seas, gulfs, bays, and lakes will be represented in depth, and the continents, peninsulas, isthmuses, mountains, islands, etc., in relief and in proportion with their respective elevations on the globe.

" 'The bottom of the oceans and other seas will be covered with sand, the land ornamented with green, and the mountains may be built of the same kind of stone as they are in nature.

" 'The rivers and canals will be drawn according to their respective courses, and, if found advisable, the bottom of the oceans, seas, etc., will be so constructed that it may be filled with water when desired. In this way, the universe will be represented in its natural elements.'

"Should the topographical representation proposed be executed on ten acres of land and in the form of a planisphere, Lake Erie and Lake Ontario would each cover a space of more than 8 feet in length and the United States, from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean, would have a width of 160 feet. Each country, kingdom, state, and province will be distinctly drawn, and all important cities so indicated as to give

complete information in regard to their situation. The degrees of latitude and longitude, as well as the equator, ecliptic, tropics, and other circles, will be exactly delineated.

"Such a topographical representation of the globe would have many advantages over all other kinds of maps; it would be on a scale large enough to show the countries in their exact proportions, and their relative positions would be more clearly discerned.

"The various land elevations, influencing in a large measure the temperature of climates and productions, may be accurately calculated. The locations desirable for the building of roads, canals and other improvements will be seen at a glance; so that by walking a few hours in this garden, a more useful knowledge of geographical science may be obtained, than in studying this science in books for years."

Road books are not a modern creation as is supposed by many. An early one by Christopher Colles, entitled "A survey of the roads of the United States of America. 1789," in 86 sheets, is interesting as showing the roads previous to the founding of Washington. Sheets 62-63 of this rare work show the road from Annapolis to Bladensburg; sheet 64-65, from Annapolis to Alexandria; sheet 66 showing from Annapolis to Dumfries gives "Gen. Washington's land." Another work of considerable interest on the subject is by S. S. Moore and T. W. Jones, entitled: "The traveller's directory, or a pocket companion; shewing the course of the main road from Philadelphia to New York, and from Philadelphia to Washington. With descriptions of the places through which it passes, and the intersection of the cross roads. Illustrated with an account of such remarkable objects as are generally interesting to travellers. From actual survey . . . a p.l., 52 pp., 38 maps on 22 l. 8°. Philadelphia, printed for, and published by M. Carey, 1802." The maps are engraved by F. Shallus, W. Harrison, jr., James Smither, and I. Draper. Nos. 21-22 of the map entitled: "Road from Philadelphia to Washington" pertains to the District of Columbia. No. 21 includes from the station 126 miles from Philadelphia to the one 132 miles distant, and no. 22 from 133 miles to the city of Washington. "Rhoads' T," "Paint Branch,"

"Indian Queen," "Road to Montgomery," "Bladensburg," "Road from Marlborough," "Port Tobacco," and part of Eastern Branch are shown. No. 23 is a plan of the city of Washington, showing the Eastern Branch, "Mason's Island," "Alexander's island," "Georgetown," "Rock Creek," "Capitol," "Mall," President's House, University, Navy Yard, Hospital Square, etc. A description of the Territory of Columbia, city of Washington, public buildings, etc., is found in pp. 49-52. The second edition of this same work was published in 1804."

The kind of vehicle in which they travelled these roads is shown in an interesting plate entitled: "Waterloo Inn. The first stage from Baltimore to Washington," found in the work of Lieut. the Hon. Fred. Fitzgerald De Roos, Royal Navy, entitled: "Personal narrative of travel in the United States and Canada in 1826."

There has been frequently discussion on the much mooted question as to General Edward Braddock's road in the unfortunate expedition to Fort DuQuesne, in which Washington came first into prominence. Braddock's Rock is a familiar local land mark. While there are many manuscript and printed maps from Fort Cumberland, there is only one map which gives the road by name from the "Federal City." This is found in Gilbert Imlay's "Topographical description of the western territory of North America. 3d ed. London, 1797," entitled "A map of the western part of the territories belonging to the United States. . . . T. Conder, sculp. 1795."

The earliest views of Washington are principally of interest on account of their association and not from any point of view as to how the city looked at the beginning. If the two views by King, which have previously been mentioned, but not found, could come to light, perhaps this local artist could give us a better knowledge of the appearance of the city, than the early views that are known. The earliest which has come to our inspection was made by George Isham Parkyns, in 1795. This artist came from England and according to Stauffer in his "American engravers" settled in Philadelphia. He is only

The Van Ness house.

referred to as having executed an aquatint of Mount Vernon, which is probably the first one made of that historic place. Including the one just mentioned, the following numerical and chronological list fully describing the most valued, may be of interest:

1. (Title) Washington. G. I. Parkyns. 21 x 25 inches. New York, published by I. Harrison at the Apollo, Sep^{r}. 1st 1795, and according to act of Parliament by G. I. Parkyns, esq^{r}. London.

This view is taken from above Georgetown on the District side, showing Analostan Island, and the city opposite. A man leading horses and wagon is seen in the foreground, descending the hill. Shows the road at the fork, many trees on each side. Another view by Parkyns entitled: "The city of Washington in 1800" is found in the English edition of Marshall's "Life of George Washington, London 1805," vol. 3. The view is from the Virginia side across the Potomac looking toward the Capitol and showing the various scattered buildings. This is also found in the French edition of Marshall, 1807, entitled: "Vue de la ville de Washington en 1800."

2. (Title) George Town and Federal City, or City of Washington. Drawn by G. Beck, Philadelphia. Engraved by T. Cartwright, London. 19 x 24½ inches. London & Philadelphia, pub. by Atkins & Nightingale, June 1st. 1801.

This is a colored view and is one of a series of four, the others being an East view of Baltimore, Philadelphia from the great tree of Kensington, and Great Falls of the Potomac. Below the title of this view is the United States eagle with the stars and stripes, and the motto "E pluribus unum." The view is taken from the District side above Georgetown, showing Analostan island, bridge across Rock Creek, city of Georgetown and Washington beyond, ships on the river, and the hills in the distance. In the foreground beside the road side is a pedestrian with his dog; a little below him are two men

riding. A reproduction of this view is found in Pinkerton's "A general collection . . . of voyages and travels, 1812." v. 12, p. 342.

3. (Title) City of Washington. From beyond the Navy Yard. Printed by C. Cooke. Engd. by W. J. Bennett. 18½ x 24½ inches. New York, Lewis P. Clover, 1834.

"Entered according to act of congress in the year 1834 by Lewis P. Clover in the clerk's office of the southern district of New York." Colored view from the Virginia side looking toward the Navy Yard and Capitol. Shows the Capitol with unfinished dome and without extensions, White House, bridge across Eastern Branch, many boats in the harbor and beyond near Georgetown. In the foreground is a negro driving a yoke of oxen to a cart, up the hill, and below in the valley is a red farm house.

4. (Title) View of the city of Washington. The metropolis of the United States of America. Taken from the Arlington house, the residence of George Washington. F. Curtis, Esq. P. Anderson, del. On stone by F. H. Lane. 15 x 36½ inches. Boston, T. Moore's lithography [1838]

"Entered according to act of congress in the year 1838 by P. Anderson in the clerk's office of the District court of Massachusetts." Under the view in the center of the title is a small illustration of the Arlington house. The view is taken looking across the river showing the bridge across the Eastern Branch, various ships in the river, mouth of the canal, Capitol with unfinished dome and no extensions, White House, and Georgetown in the distance.

5. (Title) View of Washington. 21 x 23 inches. [Philadelphia, R. P. Smith, publisher, 1850]

"Entered according to act of congress in the year 1850, by Robert P. Smith, in the clerk's office of the eastern district of Pennsyla." The name of Robert P. Smith, publisher is given in the Philadelphia

The Decatur mansion.

directories. This interesting view, which gives a most graphic sight of the city in 1850, showing the Washington city canal with bridges across from street intersections, is taken from a little east of the capitol looking north-west, up Pennsylvania avenue showing the contemplated monument of Washington, Smithsonian Institution, Potomac river bridge, old Baltimore and Ohio station with train going through, City Hall, Patent Office, etc. The Capitol is shown without extensions and the dome unfinished. Fence, parking, carriages, riders, and many people are in the foreground. Another copy of this view colored is without date or imprint and does not contain the copyright entry.

6. (Title) View of Washington. Drawn from nature and on stone by E. Sachse & comp. 18½ x 28 inches. Baltimore, published & sold by E. Sachse & co. [1852]

"Entered according to act of congress in the year 1852 by E. Sachse & co., in the clerk's office of the district court of Maryland." Shows the Capitol with both wings but the dome is incomplete. The Washington City canal extends to the end of the Capitol grounds to the south. Shows public buildings and private dwellings along the avenue, and the Washington monument according to the original design. A number of people and equipages are seen in the foreground.

7. (Title) Washington, D. C. with projected improvements. Respectfully dedicated to the president and citizens of the United States, by the publishers, Smith & Jenkins, N. Y. Designed & lith. by B. F. Smith, Jr. Printed in tints by M. Michelin, N. Y. 24¾ x 43 inches, within the border.

"Entered according to act of congress in the year 1852, by Smith & Jenkins . . ." This beautiful panoramic view, "with projected improvements" shows that at an early date, 1852, the present contemplated improvements had been under advisement in the minds of many for a number of years. Making use of the old canal, which is now under cover, as a picturesque addition to amuse the people,

with elaborate ornamental bridges, canal boats towed along by horses, pleasure boats, gives a suggestion of Paris, and the Seine. Some of the attractions which are brought prominently into notice are fountains, summer houses, roads in all directions bordered with trees, the contemplated Washington monument, much statuary, riding, driving, distant view of the White House with wings, Treasury department, Smithsonian Institution, old State, War and Navy buildings, steeple of St. John's church and the distant hills. It would be well for those who have the beautifying of the city at heart to study carefully this view.

8. (Title) Panoramic view of Washington city from the new dome of the Capitol looking west. Drawn from nature by Edwd. Sachse. 18¼ x 32½ inches, within the border. Baltimore, pub. by E. Sachse & co. [1856]

"Entered according to act of congress in the year 1856 by E. Sachse & co., in the clerk's office of the district court of Maryland." This is one of the earliest views showing the completed dome, extensions, fence and parking of the Capitol. It is colored and taken from a point southeast of the Capitol looking up Pennsylvania avenue. Many carriages, riders, and people are pictured in the grounds. Beyond may be seen the canal coming through the Mall, crossed by bridges, the Washington monument still according to the original idea with base, Smithsonian Institution, Potomac river, City Hall, Post Office, Patent Office, Baltimore and Ohio Station, Treasury and White House, etc.

To go on describing all the maps and views of Washington, comprising the vast collection in the Library of Congress, in which the ones already mentioned are found, would be beyond the original object of this paper; that is to describe the beginnings of the city. The writer of this has already compiled a full description of them all, which is enlarged from his work published in 1900, entitled: "Descriptive list of maps and views of Washington and District of Columbia."

St. John's Church and the President's House. 1816.

Marcus Baker in 1894, published a paper entitled: "Surveys and maps of the District of Columbia," and W. B. Bryan in his "Bibliography of the District of Columbia, 1900," gives a list of maps, both of which, as may be seen on examination, were copied from the manuscript list of the writer of this monograph.

Little has been said regarding the sketch of special subjects, such as sections of the city, public buildings and canals, but specific mention must be made of the cartoons of the White House and House of Representatives, which the distinguished English cartoonist Robert Cruickshank decorated and made noteworthy in a stupid and absurd work on American manners in the early days, entitled: "The Playfair papers: or Brother Jonathan, 'the smartest nation in all creation,' " published in London, 1841.

The only portrait known of Major Pierre Charles L'Enfant, who has raised to himself an imperishable monument in his adopted country, is enlarged from the one found in Charles Burr Todd's "The story of Washington." The author of this, the most interesting work on Washington, has courteously permitted its use to illustrate this work.

The modern city directory, which is indispensible from a business point of view, does not convey the interest of those published in early days. These must be handled with charity, for the names of the ancestors of various people are found therein, who were not born great, but had greatness thrust upon them by the lenient hand of time. If you read between the lines, with even charity toward all, the first Washington directory, published in 1822, may afford ample interest to the genealogist. It is prefaced by a list of the Senators and members of the House, the great majority living in boarding houses, notwithstanding they made good laws in those days.

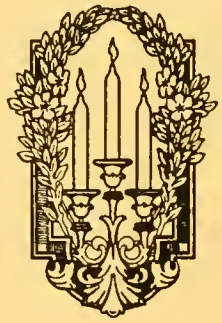
The diplomatists and their places of residence came next, followed by the usual alphabetical list of the inhabitants, and at the end, much miscellaneous information of local interest. We cannot help noticing, "The female cent society of Washington," which was intended for the education of young men for the ministry, and the

charming business notice of W. l. Stone, engraver, which is illustrated with a dainty little cupid.

Chimney sweeps also came into considerable official notice, a profession which children of the past believed was uncanny.

Twenty-five cents was the round trip fare in "hackney carriages" from almost any location. Many distinguished names are noted, among them, "James Monroe, president of the United States, at the president's house."

The interest in all subjects relating to Washington, is and should be shared by the whole nation. As the country grows, so will the national interest exert itself to help make it what its founders planned and prophesied, the most beautiful city in the world.



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